DOCUMENT RESUME

ED 385 141 FL 023 136

AUTHOR Adegbija, Efurosibina
TITLE Language Attitudes in Sub-Saharan Africa: A Sociolinguistic Overview. Multilingual Matters 103.
REPORT NO ISBN-1-85359-239-6
PUB DATE 94
NOTE 138p.
AVAILABLE FROM Multilingual Matters, 1900 Frost Road, Suite 101, Bristol, PA 19007.
PUB TYPE Books (010) -- Tests/Evaluation Instruments (160)

EDRS PRICE Document Not Available from EDRS.
DESCRIPTORS *Colonialism; Demography; Diachronic Linguistics; Educational Attitudes; Educational Policy; Foreign Countries; *Language Attitudes; Language Research; *Language Role; *Multilingualism; *Official Languages; Political Influences; *Public Policy; Social Values; Sociolinguistics
IDENTIFIERS *Africa (Sub Sahara)

ABSTRACT

A study of language attitudes in Sub-Saharan Africa, an area of 45 countries and over 1,700 languages, attempts to: (1) pinpoint attitudinal patterns towards European and indigenous languages; (2) give these attitudes historical perspective; (3) identify attitudes toward language use in education; (4) encourage language research on attitudes in this area; and (5) highlight the implications of attitudes for effective language policy formation and language planning in contemporary Africa, and in multilingual contexts in general. An introductory chapter offers background on the demography of Sub-Saharan Africa and the varied functions of language. The first chapter offers greater detail about the characteristics of language use there, including dense multilingualism, treatment of ex-colonial and indigenous languages, language-related problems, and cross-border languages. Chapter 2 outlines the socio-historical foundations of language attitudes. Research in this area is then reviewed in chapter 3, including its objectives, methodology, major findings, and proposed future directions. Chapter 4 looks at the interrelationship of the size of the speaker group, power, and language attitudes. Language use and attitudes in education are discussed in chapter 5. The final chapter examines the implications of language attitudes research in Sub-Saharan Africa. Contains eight pages of references. (MSE)

****
* Reproductions supplied by EDRS are the best that can be made *
* from the original document. *
****

THIS
DOCUMENT
NOT
AVAILABLE
FROM

EDRS